

Allan I. Bergman

ODEP Subject Matter Expert



Allan I. Bergman is the President and CEO of HIGH IMPACT Consulting, a national firm he established in 2010. He is an accomplished non-profit community agency and association executive and nationally recognized thought leader in influencing the development of federal and state policy reflecting “best practice” supports and services for persons with disabilities. He also is a national expert in Medicaid policy and practice regarding children and adults with disabilities and their families and he has extensive knowledge of the Affordable Care Act, including the Health Exchanges, which provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Bergman’s career includes over 40 years of significant leadership positions within local, state and national non-profit agencies and associations and 27 years of continuous family and self-advocate leadership training in Partners in Policymaking programs across the country.

Since 2010, Bergman has provided consultation, training and technical assistance in the states of New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, North Carolina, Alabama, Kentucky, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Kansas, Pennsylvania, Minnesota and Oregon. During this period, about 50% of his effort has been in the area of managed long term supports and services (MLTSS) for people with disabilities (including the provisions in the ACA for “dual eligibles”). He has authored a MLTSS checklist for providers and advocates for ANCOR, was invited to conduct a webinar on MLTSS for the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) in April 2012 and to serve as one of five national faculty during a November 2013 NCSL Invitational Forum in Washington, D.C.

Allan has facilitated strategic planning and organizational development for Councils on Developmental Disabilities and University Centers for Excellence in DD and non-profit organizations as well as the development of the Disability Leadership Coalition in Alabama. Since 2010, Bergman has served as a regular guest lecturer on the topics of non-profit governance and “lobbying” for a graduate course in Corporate Governance at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. He was invited to conduct a workshop on Leadership and Governance for the Community Action Partnership Annual Conference in August 2013.

Bergman is under contract as a subject matter expert in Employment First policy and provider transformation on two projects for the Office of Disability Employment Policy within the U.S. Department of Labor; on Employment First State Leadership and Rebalancing State day and employment supports into the “most integrated setting”. He provided the keynote address for the 25th Anniversary Conference of APSE in June 2013: “The Employment First Imperative”, and was retained by SAMHSA in the fall of 2013 as a subject matter expert to the state of Minnesota to develop an interagency Olmstead plan. At the individual level of community integration, Allan has assisted three individuals in Illinois with significant disabilities (two with

autism) to live in “homes of their own” with appropriate services and supports. Today he is working with four families in Connecticut and Illinois on similar projects.

Prior to beginning HIGH IMPACT, Bergman served as the President & CEO of Anixter Center in Chicago; a community agency supporting more than 5,000 individuals living with disabilities through 400 employees, 72 programs and multiple sites. His earlier positions in Washington, DC included President & CEO of the Brain Injury Association of America, and significant leadership roles with United Cerebral Palsy Associations as Director of the Institute on Disability and Managed Care, Director of State-Federal Relations, and Director of Government Relations. After completing his undergraduate degree in psychology at Cornell University, Allan’s early career included responsibilities at the Texas State Commission for the Blind, as Executive Director for the Austin (TX) Cerebral Palsy Center and Executive Director of three ARCs: in Dallas, San Francisco and the State of Colorado.

Allan brings a personal perspective to his work. He is the father of an adult daughter who is competitively employed and lives in her own apartment with supports in a Chicago suburb. Dina lives with intellectual disabilities. He also is the step father of an adult daughter living in a 2 bedroom apartment with full time supports and participating in integrated day supports and supported employment in Chicago. Mindy lives with multiple disabilities secondary to Rett Syndrome.

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